

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

DEPARTMENT OF ZOÖLOGY
BERKELEY 4, CALIFORNIA

Oct. 26, 1960

Dear Josh:

I'm sorry to have been so slow to reply to your kind invitation to visit Esther and you. Gertrude and I will be delighted and are pretty free now that the girls are big. The date you set was fine - Nov. 11th, 12th?; I don't have your letter before me. Just let us know the time and the place.

The agenda for the Westex meeting looks very interesting. May I add a suggestion for an earthbound experiment that I've discussed briefly with Carl Sagan. What is the stability of DNA and proteins under sterile conditions in primitive sea water at various temperatures? No use in forming the organic soup if they can deteriorate faster than they are formed. The critical variability~~xxx~~ in the accumulation of native high polymers could be the thermal stability of multi-hydrogen bonds.

Best regards,

DM
Daniel Mazia

Mazia, D.

Good point - I will ask Sagan and Miller to bat it around.

That thermophiles can retain their viability at high temps. argues for very high stability of individual links